YANK
DON'T BE TOO RASH.
JUST LOOK AT HIM.

SWOOSH!

SWISH

?
TURN
SHEATHE~
HEY
I KNOW THERE'S JUST SOMETHING OFF ABOUT YOU... DON'T THINK HE'LL PROTECT YOU FOREVER

AHAHAH
YOU CAN RELAX A LITTLE NOW
SMILE
SMILE
HUH?
? ? ?

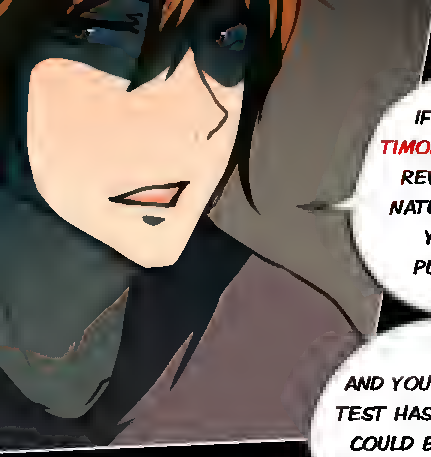
THESE GUYS ARE NUTS!
THEY SHOULD HAVE JUST LEFT ME TO DIE FROM THAT MONSTER IF THEY'RE JUST GOING TO END ME WITH THEIR OWN HANDS!
WHY DID I END UP GETTING MIXED UP IN THIS? WHY AM I ALWAYS THE ONE UNLUCKY?

IDIOT

AH...

HE'S CERTAINLY A HOT-HEADED ONE, ISN'T HE?

NOW, I'LL LET YOU OUT OF YOUR RESTRAINTS IN JUST A BIT.
I'M SURE YOUR ARMS COULD USE A BIT OF A STRETCH.
AND NOW THAT I'VE DISSOLVED THE HOSTILE ATMOSPHERE, FEEL FREE TO ASK YOUR 100 QUESTIONS
I'M SURE YOU'VE RACKED UP PLENTY OF QUESTIONS SINCE THE EVENTS AT THE OFFICE



IF HE REALLY WAS A TIMOREM, HE WOULD HAVE REVERTED TO HIS RAW NATURE AND FORM WHEN YOU CASTED YOUR PURIFICATION CHANT.

AND YOU KNOW THE LANGUAGE TEST HAS ITS FLAWS. MAYBE HE COULD BE OF LATIN DESCENT, WHO KNOWS?

ARE YOU JOKING? LATIN AND ALL ITS DERIVED LANGUAGES HAVEN'T BEEN USED IN YEARS.

THERE'S NO WAY THIS KID--

YEAH...
OH. BUT BEFORE THAT. LET ME JUST INTRODUCE OURSELVES FIRST

UBI ES?
NO MATTER HOW DESPERATELY HE DENIES, IT WON'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT HE ANSWERED THOSE QUESTIONS SO NATURALLY WHEN HARVEY ASKED HIM IN LATIN.
IT'S LIKE HE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE ANYTHING WAS DIFFERENT AT ALL.
AND LASTLY
QUID HIC AGIS?
B.S.

EGO EXPURGO
FWOOSH~

YOU MAY NOT LOOK LIKE A MONSTER, BUT WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES.
AND MONSTERS DON'T BELONG IN THIS WORLD.
!!

DON'T KILL ME
DON'T KILL ME
WUU
MM
CRINGE
YOU SEE THIS KID? HE'S GOT SNOT RUNNING DOWN HIS NOSE, BEGGING NOT TO GET CUT UP BY YOUR BLADE.

IT'S PATHETIC TO BE PLAYING DUMB WHEN YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN CAUGHT.
YOU'VE ALREADY FAILED THE LANGUAGE TEST. YOU CAN'T TAKE IT BACK NOW.

catharsis

By: Ahniku

MY ANSWER IS OBVIOUS.

HE ASKED ME IF I WAS HUMAN.

THE LAST TIME I CHECKED, I WAS DEFINITELY NOTHING MORE THAN AN UNFORTUNATE 17 YEAR OLD GUY.

I'D NEVER MISS A SIGN LIKE THAT. SO REALLY, YOU CAN CALM DOWN A LITTLE—

TSK
PEEK

TO GET THIS OUT OF THE WAY, I'M HARVEY J
MY PARTNER'S NAME IS PARIS KOJIMA

WAIT...
W-WAIT WHAT!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN "AM I REALLY HUMAN?"
O-OF COURSE I AM!

!
HARVEY?

PANIC
PANIC
P-PLEASE JUST WAIT--
REACH

IT'S WHAT I HAVE BEEN MY WHOLE LIFE.

THE QUESTION WAS RIDICULOUS.

THE CHANCES OF HIM REALLY BEING OF LATIN DESCENT IS SO LOW. YOU EVEN SAW HIS FILE.
TCH
I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES WITH HIM.
IT WAS JUST WAY TOO FISHY FROM THE START.
HOW CAN YOU REALLY--
STAND DOWN.

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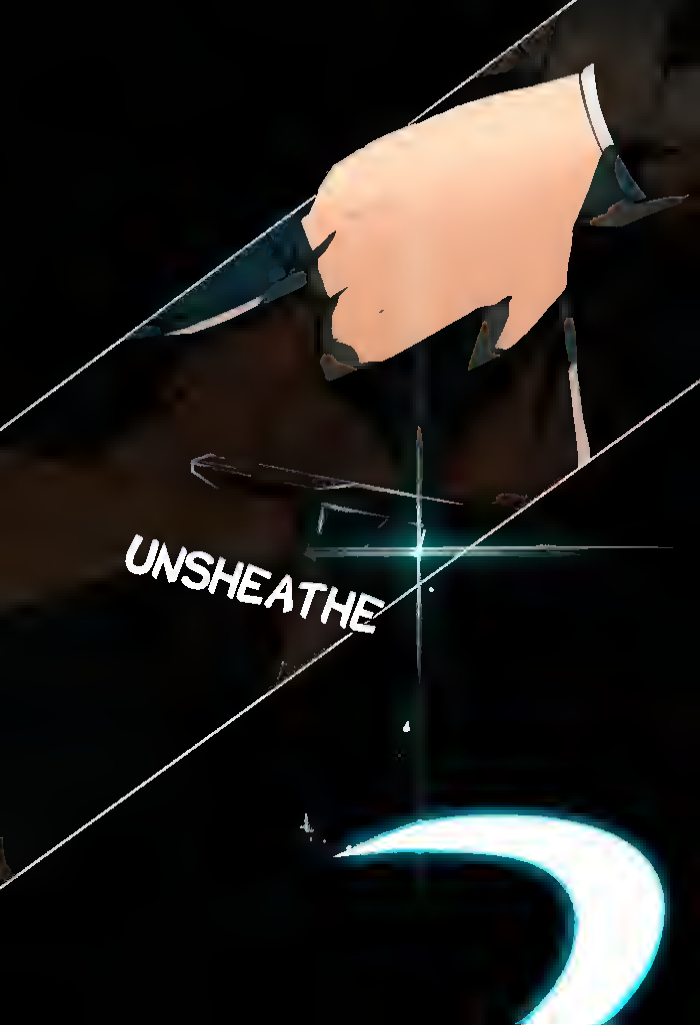
UNSHEATHE

UH..
PAT
DON'T WORRY.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET CUT UP BY HIM. YOU'VE GOT WAY TOO MUCH EMOTION TO BE ONE OF THOSE MONSTERS.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST OF THE INVESTIGATION.
JUST FOCUS ON KEEPING THIS VEIL STABLE. IF HE DOES THROW ANYTHING FUNNY AT ME, THEN YOU HAVE THE GREEN LIGHT TO HACK HIM UP.
—
FINE
SQUEEZE
RELEASE

PLEASE JUST STOP!
HOW DID I EVEN END UP HERE? I JUST WANTED TO DO MY JOB, GO HOME, MAKE UP WITH AMI THE NEXT DAY AND LIVE NORMALLY LIKE HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.

SIGH

AND WE'RE A PART OF THIS PARTICULAR ORGANIZATION CALLED CATHARSIS.

SHIIING

PARIS
GRAB

W-WHAT TEST? WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT??
....
RIDICULOUS

GLINT
SERIOUSLY??
HE'S GONNA REALLY DO IT!
GASP

WHAT??
N-NO! WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING? WHAT TEST? PLEASE!
HE'S POINTING A SWORD IN MY FACE.

IF I WASN'T, WHAT EXACTLY WOULD I BE THEN?